



CHICOPEE BOARD OF ALDERMEN
PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

ACCEPTED 2-22-10

MEMBERS

Frederick Krampits, Chairman
Chuck Swider, Vice-Chairman
Dino Brunetti
Ron Belair
Jean Croteau

MINUTES
February 3, 2010

The following are the minutes of a public hearing held Wednesday, February 3, 2010 at 6:30 PM at City Hall, Aldermanic Chambers, 4th floor, City Hall Annex.

Members Present Krampits, Croteau, Swider, LaFlamme

Members Absent Belair

Also Present Councilor Demers (Ward 8), Councilor Zygarowski (At-Large), Dan Garvey (Asst. City Solicitor), John Ferraro (Chief of Police)

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM.

ITEM #1

ORDERED THAT the DPW Superintendent inform the City Council of the procedural policy with regard to snow plowing in the City of Chicopee.

Stan Kulig (DPW Superintendent) stated that they have up to 40 city employees - 23 drivers, 5 or 6 sanders, 2 office personnel and 4 Supervisors. Zones are broken up and assigned. All the plowers are supervised. They try to monitor all activity throughout a snow storm. Sometimes problems can occur regarding plowing. Stan wants to be notified about any complaints during a storm so that they can be addressed. Stan enforces the parking ban and makes the calls personally for towing.

Councilor Swider stated when you hire a sub-contractor and they have 4 trucks on the road but, they put in to be paid for 5 trucks; it seems pretty easy to get paid. What checks and balance do you have at the end of the night? Shouldn't you have a list of equipment?

Councilor Croteau stated that regarding plowing he wants someone to take charge and make a decision. Overall the DPW does a very good job.

Councilor Demers stated that technically you could have 2 or 3 different guys in a ward. How do you determine how a private subcontractor can do the job? My issue is when you hire them do they have proof on insurance? He's also receiving a lot of calls about bushes being pushed over. Question to Police Chief Ferraro, who makes the decision regarding towing?

Councilor LaFlamme concerned about piling the snow on the ends of streets. Also there are some concerns about forgetting to plow a street.

Councilor Zygarowski asked how quickly does the Police Department respond to these calls? He has complaints the plows are up too high and not plowing wide enough.

Police Chief Farraro asked how does the DPW call out plows? In response to Councilor Demers question regarding towing; #1 the vehicle should not be there. #2 The DPW calls police for cars to be towed regarding plowing.

Item #2

ORDERED THAT the existing drain easement at 817 Front Street be abandoned to the abutter.

The abutter was not present at the meeting.

Krampits made a motion to table

Item #3

Minutes - April 14, 2009

Motion Passed. 4-0 favorable

Meeting Adjourned at 7:42 PM